

REMARKS

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated May 1, 2006, Applicants submit that the present Amendment is in compliance with 35 C.F.R. § 1.121.

Claims 1-11 are pending in the application. Claim 1 is being amended. Claims 17-22 were previously withdrawn without prejudice. Claims 12-16 were previously canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-11 stand rejected. Claims 1-7 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brown (U.S. Patent 5,280,661). Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown. Claims 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown in view of Wilkman (U.S. Patent 6,305,531). No new matter is being introduced by way of the amendments.

With regard to the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brown, Applicants are amending claim 1 to recite that the eye wipe comprises, “material forming only one cavity with one opening configured to receive a finger.” Support for the claim amendment is found in Applicants’ specification as originally filed at least in reference to FIGS. 2A-2C.

In contrast, Brown discloses a digital wipe device that is suitable to clean eyeglass lenses. The digital wipe device includes a pair of sheaths 14, 16 each sized to hold a finger or thumb. The sheaths are configured to receive an interconnecting flexible member 24 extending between the opposed open ends of the sheaths. Wiping sheets 26 are connected by stitching to the opposed sheaths along the flexible member. In all configurations of Brown’s digital wipe device, there are exactly *two* cavities (i.e., two sheaths) (see Response to Arguments on Page 5 of the present Office Action). Brown does not disclose “material forming only one cavity with one opening configured to receive a finger,” as recited in Applicants’ amended claim 1.

For all of these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that Brown is not anticipatory prior art of amended claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be withdrawn.

Claims 2-7 and 9, which depend from claim 1, should be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

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With regard to the rejection of claims 8 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), because claim 8 depends from claim 1, the arguments above apply. Thus, because claim 1 is not rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), claim 8 should be allowed for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn.

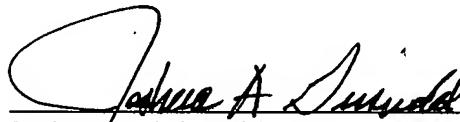
With regard to the rejection of claims 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown in view of Wilkman, Applicants respectfully submit that neither Brown nor Wilkman, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests Applicants' invention as amended in claim 1 as described above. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 10 and 11 should be withdrawn for at least the same reasons as claim 1 from which they depend.

Conclusion

In view of the above, it is believed that the application is in order for issuance. Should the Examiner have any further questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to call the Applicants' representative at the phone number provided below.

No additional fees are believed to be due. However, please apply any deficiencies or any other required fees or any credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing the attorney docket number shown above.

Respectfully submitted,



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